

2024 FOOD VISION IMPLEMENTATION CHART

PROJECT STATUS

- ○ ○ ○ 0 = NOT STARTED
- ○ ○ ○ 1 = INITIATED
- ● ○ ○ 2 = MODERATE PROGRESS
- ● ● ○ 3 = SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS
- ● ● ● 4 = COMPLETED OR INSTITUTIONALIZED



STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
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I1	5 low-income or underserved neighborhoods reach self-defined goals for a Complete Food Environment	DDPHE's Food in Communities program	0	11	5	DDPHE	CPD, HOST	3 ● ● ● ○
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A complete food environment (CFE) is a community-defined set of food resources that together provide for the food needs of all community members, integrating the culture and values of each neighborhood (e.g., grocery stores, farmers' markets, school gardens, etc.). Eleven low-income or underserved neighborhoods identified for in-depth partnership with DDPHE are in the process of reaching self-defined goals for a complete food environment. Sixty-nine percent of the recommendations within the East and West Area Plans are being supported by the DDPHE Food in Communities (FIC) project through funding, technical assistance and capacity building. FIC has implemented recommendations from the neighborhoods included in the East and West Area Plans plus Westwood: East Colfax, Montclair, South Park Hill, Hale, Barnum West, Barnum, Westwood, Sun Valley, Valverde, Villa Park, West Colfax.

I1.A. Engage diverse community organizations, institutions, neighborhoods, and residents to develop neighborhood food plans as part of qualifying city neighborhood and small area plans that outline the ideal features of an equitable complete food environment.	5 low-income or underserved neighborhoods reach self-defined goals for a Complete Food Environment	DDPHE's Food in Communities program	0	11	5 in 2030	CPD	DDPHE, CPD, HOST	4 ● ● ● ●
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Community Planning and Development's (CPD) Neighborhood Planning Initiative (NPI) is a 14 year effort to cover all neighborhoods in Denver with more equitable and inclusive plans - with a focus on underserved communities, NEST neighborhoods, areas with low equity scores through Blueprint Denver's equity index. Neighborhood plans are adopted by City Council to further solidify and prioritize each plan's recommendations. The Food in Communities (FIC) initiative out of Denver's Department of Public Health and Environment (DDPHE) continued its grant funded efforts piloting food access work with community organizations and neighbors, focusing in the West and East Colfax neighborhoods, working with regional food partners, and supporting the Denver Sustainable Food Policy Council. DDPHE's FIC team informed 4 city plans (Far NE, West Area, East Colfax and East Central Neighborhood plans) with food related recommendations. The East and West Area Plans have been adopted and help define a complete food environment for the neighborhoods in the planning areas. Within those plans, FIC implemented recommendations from 11 neighborhoods including, East Colfax, Montclair, South Park Hill, Hale, Barnum West, Barnum, Westwood, Sun Valley, Valverde, Villa Park, West Colfax. Sixty-nine percent of the recommendations within the East and West Area Plans are being supported by FIC through funding, technical assistance and capacity building.

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
<p>I1.B. Develop maps and other tools that highlight neighborhood assets, gaps, and opportunities for creating complete food environments in Denver's low and moderate income neighborhoods (prioritize neighborhoods that are currently food deserts)</p>	<p>5 low-income or underserved neighborhoods reach self-defined goals for a Complete Food Environment</p>	<p>DDPHE's Food in Communities program</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>5 in 2030</p>	<p>CPD</p>	<p>DDPHE, CPD, DHS, DEDO, OCA</p>	<p>2</p> 
<p>The GIS teams of the Denver Department of Public Health and Environment (DDPHE) and Community Planning and Development (CPD) work together for each area plan to create new food environment maps and health maps. The Department of Economic Development and Opportunity (DEDO) manages the NEST Neighborhood Index, and DEDO anticipates rollout of supplemental neighborhood data to support healthy food access data and strategies. The Department of Human Services (DHS) Human Together Index includes several maps identifying societal and systemic challenges to improve community opportunities. DDPHE's Food in Communities program created maps of food security, access, and vulnerable communities as part of its analysis phase. The Office of Children's Affairs (OCA) has a map of Tasty Food sites and meals distributed in 2021. OCA is developing a map with current Tasty Food meal program locations.</p> <p>The Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) Initiative created GIS maps using both secondary and primary data. Data mapped in 2022 include grantee reach across neighborhoods, school and community gardens, food retail stores, farmers markets, food pantries, percentage of homes with access to a full-service grocery store, and percentage of households receiving SNAP benefits. These data points have been overlaid with demographic data by age, race/ethnicity, income, immigration status, and language. Maps can be found on DDPHE's website.</p>								
<p>I1.C. Leverage public and private investments to fill community identified gaps and make neighborhood food environments more complete, including investments in neighborhood retail spaces, food, co-ops, gardens, food pantries, market locations, and/or nonprofit educational urban farms</p>	<p>5 low-income or underserved neighborhoods reach self-defined goals for a Complete Food Environment</p>	<p>DDPHE's Food in Communities program</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>5 in 2030</p>	<p>DDPHE</p>	<p>DDPHE, DEDO, CPD, OCA</p>	<p>3</p> 
<p>CPD's Neighborhood Planning Initiative (NPI) plans are adopted by City Council, which solidifies and prioritizes all implementation and policy recommendations. The East and West Area Plans stemming from CPD's NPI were adopted by City Council and include recommendations towards achieving a complete food environment for the neighborhoods in the planning areas. DDPHE's FIC initiative implemented recommendations from 11 neighborhoods (East Colfax, Montclair, South Park Hill, Hale, Barnum West, Barnum, Westwood, Sun Valley, Valverde, Villa Park, West Colfax), totaling sixty-nine percent of the recommendations within the East and West Area Plans supported by FIC through funding, technical assistance and capacity building. DDPHE's Food in Communities project is aimed at strengthening partnerships and policies for a community-led, sustainable, and just food system in Denver. FIC offers at least \$66,000 per year in seed funding for food projects. DDPHE also invested in food pantries and other food access points through CDC, DDPHE, and Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) funding. The Office of Children's Affairs (OCA) received a HFDK grant to expand Tasty Food sites to increase the number of youth served.</p> <p>Community identified studying zoning to identify if and where changes may be needed in support of mobile food markets in neighborhoods where food trucks are restricted, and make updates specific to food retail needs and wants of the community. DEDO is in conversations about Notice of Financing Available (NOFA) priorities for its new administration in 2023. DHS's Human Together Food Access Request for Proposals (RFP) provided direct community investment in FIC neighborhoods. DHS is currently reviewing priorities and adapting its scope to be more responsive to community needs. Annually, \$250,000 is available for DHS Human Together grants. DOTI began creating a curbside management plan which will include updated permitting, access for food trucks, and mobile vending. The Department of Parks and Recreation's (DPR) Game Plan for a Healthy City includes the creation of 4 new community gardens. DPR intends to connect such gardens to current community food work and is exploring additional funding sources for support.</p>								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
<p>11.D. Encourage neighborhood retail locations that feature food businesses in new developments and redevelopment projects</p>	<p>5 low-income or underserved neighborhoods reach self-defined goals for a Complete Food Environment</p>	<p>DDPHE's Food in Communities program</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>5 in 2030</p>	<p>CPD</p>	<p>DEDO, DDPHE, DHS</p>	<p>2</p> <p>● ● ○ ○</p>
<p>As CPD leads each neighborhood plan through development and adoption, the policy recommendation to encourage neighborhood retail with food businesses is included within the quality of life complete food environment section. DEDO supports retail food businesses in development phase in the Denver market (e.g., restaurants, hospitality, and grocery stores) and it also works with the Department of Excise and License (EXL) and CPD related to local area plans.</p> <p>Grocery operators consider real estate conditions an essential component in decision-making processes. In light of this, DEDO supported market evaluations with grocers to provide information and encourage the establishment of grocery sites. DDPHE managed the Denver Healthy Corner Store initiative from 2015-2018, but grant funding ended. State level grants and loans for fresh food retail were provided to 5 Denver based healthy food retail through the CO4F (Colorado Fresh Food Financing program) for a total of \$6,970,000 since the Vision was adopted. The Colorado Fresh Food Financing Fund (CO4F) was a statewide loan and grant fund (running from 2013-2022) created to support businesses and other community initiatives to improve convenient access to affordable, healthy, and culturally relevant food. The Fund deployed more than \$13 million dollars statewide. DHS identified alignment of its SNAP efforts to this strategy and will further explore possibilities in 2024.</p>								
<p>11.E. Maintain and enhance existing neighborhood retail locations through facade and streetscape improvements</p>	<p>5 low-income or underserved neighborhoods reach self-defined goals for a Complete Food Environment</p>	<p>DDPHE's Food in Communities program</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>5 in 2030</p>	<p>CPD</p>	<p>DDPHE, DEDO, DOTI</p>	<p>2</p> <p>● ● ○ ○</p>
<p>CPD works with DDPHE and DOTI to include the recommendation to maintain and enhance neighborhood retail in neighborhood plans. Changing zoning to main street can help with creating a more pedestrian oriented facade for building forms in retail spaces. This can also expand the transparency of storefronts. DEDO's NEST Initiative rolled out a new facade improvement pilot in November 2022 aimed at 18 NEST priority neighborhoods. DEDO is currently learning from the pilot to determine needs for ongoing funding opportunities or programming. DOTI is working to upgrade streetscapes with multimodal amenities.</p>								
<p>11.F. Highlight unique neighborhood food cultures, food system innovations, and/or activation of natural or built environment features</p>	<p>5 low-income or underserved neighborhoods reach self-defined goals for a Complete Food Environment</p>	<p>DDPHE's Food in Communities program</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>5 in 2030</p>	<p>DDPHE</p>	<p>CPD, DOTI</p>	<p>2</p> <p>● ● ○ ○</p>
<p>Food culture is reflective of the demographics of people that live, work and contribute to neighborhoods. Many of the approaches to highlighting unique food cultures in Denver have focused on local, city-wide or regional events. CPD invested in building and highlighting community driven complete neighborhood food environments as part of NPI plans. Through the NPI plan efforts and other types of data, such as language access maps and race and ethnicity mapped data, a story of the need for types of healthy and culturally appropriate foods/retailers can be identified and incentivized. DOTI developed a permitting process for outdoor patio expansions to activate public places. DOTI's Office of Community and Business Engagement (OCBE) highlights and prefers local and culturally relevant food vendors when selecting catering for public events. DDPHE's FIC initiative highlights successful policy, systems, and environment (PSE) food change work on its website, and DDPHE also highlights unique food environments through a Food Systems newsletter. Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) grantees implemented various food system innovations (e.g., hydroponic classrooms), worked in neighborhoods with unique food cultures, and contributed to PSE changes in the food system. For more information, HFDK grantee summaries can be found on DDPHE's website.</p>								

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I2	44% increase number of community and school gardens							2 ●○○○
	41% increase number of permits for residential sales of fresh produce/cottage foods and food producing animals							

School and community gardens, permits for farmstands and food-producing animals are key indicators of expansion of community food production and sharing in Denver. Since the 2015 baseline, the number of community gardens has dropped from 110 to 95, while the number of school gardens with Denver in total expanded to 125 from 102. Denver Public Schools (DPS) specifically currently has 75 active gardens, and 50 inactive gardens. DPS hopes to re-activate inactive gardens but needs partner support to sustain these gardens during the summer months. The residential food sales have dramatically increased from 22 to 74, and from 196 to 1029 total food-producing animal permits in Denver.

I2.A. Work with neighborhood leaders to identify the best strategies for strengthening and promoting home, school, and community food production	44% increase number of community and school gardens 41% increase number of permits for residential sales of fresh produce/cottage foods and food producing animals	Denver Urban Gardens: https://dug.org/garden-map/	110 community gardens in 2015	92	156 in 2030	CPD	DDPHE, DPR, CPD	2 ●○○○
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It has been challenging to ensure sufficient capacity and funding so that all gardens are actively in use over time. In response, a significant amount of city and philanthropic funding has been spent on reopening gardens that were defunct, while other gardens have been lost to development pressures. Through the Neighborhood Planning Initiative (NPI), CPD continued to prioritize working with neighborhood leaders and establishing steering committees of people that live in the neighborhoods to enhance and strengthen the quality of life of residents. Through the Food in Communities initiative, DDPHE also supported neighborhood leaders, community organizers and food nonprofits with technical assistance, training, and capacity building. Healthy Food for Denver’s Kids (HFDK) grantees worked with community members around strengthening and promoting food production (e.g., through home, school, and community gardens, and urban agriculture). Denver Public Schools (DPS) currently has 75 active gardens, and 50 inactive gardens. DPS hopes to re-activate inactive gardens, but needs partner support to sustain the gardens during summer months. Denver Parks and Recreation’s community garden program, to be further developed stemming from its Game Plan for a Healthy City plan priority to Diversify Parks and Recreation Services, aligns with this strategy. HOST is interested in building garden relationships between their partners (in particular shelters) and local leaders. OCA received a HFDK grant and part of the project includes working in neighborhoods to increase awareness of Tasty Food and food preferences.

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
<p>I2.B. Enhance multilingual professional and peer learning opportunities about community food production, food preservation, food storage, food safety, and food-producing animals</p>	<p>44% increase number of community and school gardens</p> <p>41% increase number of permits for residential sales of fresh produce/cottage foods and food producing animals</p>	<p>Denver Public Schools: https://dug.org/denver-school-garden-coalition/</p> <p>Denver Public Schools Garden Map: https://www.google.com/maps/@4m3!11m2!2sVaFbF3Llqc8HiRP-oWopPGgn55UKw!3e3?shorturl=1</p>	<p>102 school gardens in 2015</p>	<p>125</p>	<p>150 in 2030</p>	<p>DPS</p>	<p>DPR, DDPHE, CPD</p>	<p>2</p> <p>●●○○</p>
<p>CPD's NPI provided language accessible digital and in-person opportunities for community to connect with city staff and neighborhood teams. Based on languages existing in a neighborhood, CPD ensured that content, messages and other notifications were translated and/or that language interpretation was offered. The City provides an annual budget allotment to CPD for language accessibility. DDPHE's Food Matters food waste reduction program organized both virtual and in-person food waste and food safety classes (in partnership with DDPHE's Public Health Investigations) for food pantries and partners in English and Spanish. The class opportunities were also shared with Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) grantees. HFDK grantees provided culturally responsive and multi-lingual (primarily English and Spanish, but also 13 other languages) gardening and food system education to Denver youth and their families. HFDK also created peer learning opportunities for grantees, such as a school garden-themed community of practice. As DPR furthers its community garden efforts, it intends to support food production learning and seeks to connect to community members and professionals who are also doing this work. In the community, opportunities exist for the City to connect individuals to educational resources available through CSU Extension. Additionally, Mile High Farmers is a grassroots organization of farmers, farm workers, and farming advocates that promotes urban agriculture in the Denver Metro area through urban farmer advocacy, and collaboration among farmers and their communities.</p>								
<p>I2.C. Promote opportunities to share food through residential sales of fresh produce, cottage foods, and donating excess food to local food pantries and hunger relief organizations</p>	<p>44% increase number of community and school gardens</p> <p>41% increase number of permits for residential sales of fresh produce/cottage foods and food producing animals</p>	<p>City of Denver Cottage Food Permits from Community Planning and Design Zoning Permit Approvals</p>	<p>22 residential sales permits in 2015</p>	<p>74</p>	<p>175 in 2030</p>	<p>DPR</p>	<p>CPD, DOTI, DDPHE</p>	<p>2</p> <p>●●○○</p>
<p>CPD issues cottage food permits for the city through Home Occupancy permits. DDPHE worked with the Denver Sustainable Food Policy Council to put in place the original policy to permit cottage food and residential food permits, but more can be done to promote the permits with community members to support food production. Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) funds multiple food rescue organizations that divert surplus food to local hunger relief organizations and provide related food systems support and education (e.g., produce donations, waste audits in schools, etc.). DHS has not historically participated in this space, but hopes to explore integrating residential sales into their food access strategy in the future.</p>								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
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12.D. Encourage community-led efforts to share seeds, compost, tools, supplies, transplants, and other inputs	44% increase number of community and school gardens	Denver Urban Gardens: https://dug.org/garden-map/	110 community gardens in 2015	192	156 in 2030	DPR	CPD, DOTI, DDPHE	1 ●○○○
	41% increase number of permits for residential sales of fresh produce/cottage foods and food producing animals							

Many efforts to share seeds, tools, and compost are led by community-based farms or gardens within Denver. Denver Urban Gardens (DUG) is an example community organization that conducts classes, shares tools, compost, seeds, and garden space to bring food and education to community. CPD intends to develop a stronger relationship with DUG in the future. DOTI sponsors community micro-grants up to \$1,500 that occasionally funds community gardening projects, among other sustainability and active transportation projects. DDPHE's Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) grantees expressed interest and desire to share agricultural inputs across organizations and requested support to organize such collaboration. DPR distributed free starter plants to community members at multiple recreation centers at the beginning of growing seasons. DHS has not historically participated in this space, but is interested to explore and integrate such strategies into their food access strategy in the future. Opportunities exists for the City to connect individuals to educational resources available through CSU Extension.

12.E. Promote opportunities for noncommercial local food production such as community gardens, nonprofit educational urban farms and edible landscapes on both public and private lands in low to moderate income and high-density neighborhoods	44% increase number of community and school gardens	Denver Animal Protection Food Producing Animals Permits Issued in total, not annual	196	1029		DDPHE	CPD, DPR	1 ●○○○
	41% increase number of permits for residential sales of fresh produce/cottage foods and food producing animals							

CPD's adopted plan guidance from the Far Northeast Area Plan includes the following recommendations: Quality of Life Recommendation 3, Strategy 3.2. Expand local food production and processing in Far Northeast neighborhoods. a. Reduce regulatory barriers that inhibit the expansion of gardens, farms, and greenhouses in backyards, schools, and other community settings. b. Promote gardens and "edible landscapes" on private land (e.g., churches) by planting fruit trees and ensure "extras" are gleaned and donated through neighborhood educational programs. c. Expand public awareness of Colorado's Cottage Food Act and Denver's Residential Sales of Fresh Produce permit, which allows residents to sell produce that they grow and certain food products they prepare themselves. d. Appropriate production and processing locations include local centers, community centers, regional centers and community corridors.

The Far NE plan is one example of how neighborhood plans can support local community-based agriculture. DDPHE's Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) grantees implemented local food production via community gardens and nonprofit educational urban farms across the city. DPR identified Elyria Park as its first community garden location. DPR plans to be thoughtful about its other 3 locations through engagement of partners and the community.

H1

55% reduction in food insecure households

36% increase in SNAP enrollment for eligible populations

75% of youth and adults eat at least 1 serving of fruit and vegetables per day

57% reduction in the number of children drinking sugary drinks daily

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Healthy eating starts with having access to healthy foods. All residents should have easy and equitable access to culturally appropriate, fresh, and healthy foods sufficient to meet their complete daily nutritional needs. Since the 2011 baseline, rates of food insecurity have dropped from 17.1 to 10.5 percent of the population. At the same time, the broader context is that there are racial inequalities between neighborhoods and racial/ethnic populations with Black and Hispanic populations having significantly higher rates of food insecurity.

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
<p>H1.A. Expand efforts to recruit and retain full-service retailers into neighborhoods with low-food access by offering targeted financial incentives and site selection support</p>	55% reduction in food insecure households	Map the Meal Gap - Feeding America	18.2% in 2011	11.1	8% in 2030	DEDO	DHS, CPD, DDPHE, DPS	1 ●○○○
<p>When DEDO recruited new businesses to the market, DEDO worked with City and County of Denver partners to attract and retain retailers that provided positive public health outcomes to Denver’s communities. CPD’s NPI has evolved over the years in how it recommends inclusion of this strategy into area plans. Currently, area plans build on the following language: LU-4. Create new community and regional centers in large undeveloped areas, and 4.1. Create new community and regional centers at the following locations as identified on the future places map.</p> <p>The Colorado Fresh Food Financing Fund (CO4F) was a state incentive program that provided grants and loans for renovations and new development of fresh food retail to improve convenient access to affordable, healthy, and culturally relevant food. CO4F ran from 2013 to 2022. Twenty Denver based healthy food retail businesses obtained funding through the CO4F, totaling \$6,970,000. Through a nonprofit partner, DPS opened ‘free grocery stories or food pantries’ in DPS schools. DHS intends to explore how it can play an important role in this strategy as it has opportunities for alignment with SNAP efforts.</p>								
<p>H1.B. Foster viable, innovative, and affordable healthy food retail models, such as mobile, online, delivery, and co-op grocery models</p>	55% reduction in food insecure households	Map the Meal Gap - Feeding America	18.2% in 2011	11.1	8% in 2030	DEDO	CPD, DDPHE, EXL	3 ●●●○
<p>The Far Northeast Area Plan included Quality of Life Recommendation #4, Strategy 4.2.d: Promote mobile markets and food delivery options to improve food access. (C) At all of these centers: Provide community-serving amenities such as retail, grocery stores, and healthy food and beverage options. QOL-3. Increase fresh food access, availability and affordability. 3.1. Identify grocery access as a priority for economic development. CPD acknowledges that this is the type of language that can be further expanded and used to support funding opportunities for neighborhoods, including the Far NE. DDPHE piloted local fresh food delivery with a community partner, Bondadosa, for low income residents quarantining due to COVID-19. DDPHE also worked with the Denver Sustainable Food Policy Council around a Mayoral advisory to support mobile farmers markets with permitting process improvements. Healthy Food for Denver’s Kids (HFDK) grantees used healthy food retail models (e.g., The Co-op at 1st, The GrowHaus low/no cost markets, Focus Points Huerta Urbana Urban Farm, etc.) and partnerships with transport and logistics organizations, for example Bondadosa, to get food to low food access areas. EXL’s policy team worked with small and medium enterprises to structure license types and fees to facilitate entrepreneurship and innovative business models, remove barriers to licensure, address inequities, and cut red tape.</p>								
<p>H1.C. Continue efforts to increase affordable healthy food options at existing convenience stores</p>	55% reduction in food insecure households	Map the Meal Gap - Feeding America	18.2% in 2011	11.1	8% in 2030	DEDO	DDPHE, DHS	2 ●●○○
<p>DDPHE integrated lessons learned from its Healthy Corner Store initiative that ended in 2018 into work with small healthy food retailers and business owners through its Food in Communities initiative. The Colorado Fresh Food Financing Fund (CO4F) provided loans and grants to small fresh food retailers including 20 locations in Denver. The Denver Food Interagency Group (FIG) assessed barriers to fresh food retailers and businesses and opportunities for policy changes to better support these businesses. DEDO Business Development employed various strategies through investment and business support services with an aim to strengthen Denver’s authentic and vibrant retail and hospitality offerings. For example, DEDO Small Business lent funds to small, authentic food manufacturers, restaurants, breweries, and commercial kitchens; and DEDO included food access organizations in their 2021 Notice of Funding Availability for CDBG funds.</p>								

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H1.D. Integrate retail access into transportation planning so pedestrian routes, bike routes, and transit stops include healthy food retail access points	55% reduction in food insecure households	Map the Meal Gap - Feeding America	18.2% in 2011	11.1	8% in 2030	DOTI	DDPHE, CPD, DPR, RTD	2 ●●○○
<p>Multiple City agencies supported transportation planning efforts towards increasing access to healthy food retail. Examples include: Community Planning and Development leveraged the Blueprint Denver citywide land use and transportation plan's Improving Access to Opportunity's Equity Section where health care services and healthy food are included. Access to fresh food considers percent of residents within 1/4 mile (10 minute walk) to a full-service grocery store. Additionally, the Quality of Life (Q8) section reads, "Develop tools to improve access to healthy foods to support community health outcomes. DOTI's Denver Moves Peds & Trails prioritizes sidewalk and pedestrian improvements within ¼ mile from bus stops and bike share stations and ½ mile from rail stations, parks, grocery stores, schools and health care centers. DDPHE worked with CPD through the NPI planning process to include recommendations around this in neighborhood plans. DPR explored how it can support this effort through the trails they maintain. RTD started a neighborhood shuttle circulator in Montbello that takes residents to local grocery options. The success of that shuttle led to an expansion in the Globeville and Elyria-Swansea neighborhood.</p>								
H1.E. Promote existing options for residential food sales and expand options for farm stands at community gardens, school gardens, urban farms, affordable housing projects, and public facilities	41% increase in number of permits for residential sales of fresh produce/ cottage foods and food producing animals	City of Denver Cottage Food Permits from Community Planning and Design Zoning Permit Approvals	22 residential sales permits in 2015	74	175 in 2030	EXL	CASR, CPD, DPR	2 ●●○○
<p>The East Central Area Plan included the following guidance: L2 Encourage shared use and activation of institutional and quasi-public buildings and open space during off-peak times. A. Encourage shared use of space at these types of facilities by creating shared use agreements between schools or churches and the city. CPD's area plans also go into further detail on the spaces type examples: 1. Using playgrounds, gymnasiums, and sports facilities for public use during non-school hours. 2. Using rooms for community uses, such as book clubs, arts and crafts, presentations, and adult learning. 3. Using church parking to accommodate nearby parking needs for adjacent uses. 4. Using school parking lots for neighborhood events, mobile community gardens or farmer's markets. 5. Using dedicated areas on school grounds for community gardens. DDPHE's Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) funded grantees supporting school and community gardens and urban farms aimed at serving children and their families with direct food access and related education. HFDK also supported a school garden-themed community of practice for grantees, with the intention to promote activities around food sales (e.g., youth farmers markets) in the future. CASR has recently hired additional staff to support community gardens in the context of environmental justice.</p>								
H1.F. Streamline permitting process and support increased use of public spaces for non-permanent fresh food retail, including community supported agriculture, mobile vending, and farmers' markets	55% reduction in food insecure households	Map the Meal Gap - Feeding America	18.2% in 2011		8% in 2030	CPD	DDPHE, EXL	1 ●○○○
<p>CPD identified that the Blueprint recommendation E5 (improve the regulatory process to provide additional support for existing and small businesses) could be revised to better address this DFV strategy. DDPHE supported the Denver Sustainable Food Policy Council with a Mayoral Advisory regarding mobile farmers markets and permitting process improvements. EXL's Policy Team worked with DDPHE Public Health Investigations (PHI) Division to propose, and obtained approval for in 2022, a new fee structure for wholesale and retail food licenses to make the permitting process simpler and less expensive.</p>								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
<p>H1.G. Explore solutions to alleviate concentration of unhealthy food retailers in neighborhoods without reducing overall food access</p>	<p>55% reduction in food insecure households</p>	<p>Map the Meal Gap - Feeding America</p>	<p>18.2% in 2011</p>		<p>8% in 2030</p>	<p>CPD</p>	<p>DDPHE, CPD, DEDO</p>	<p>1</p> <p>●○○○</p>
<p>CPD's Far Northeast Area Plan is a strong precedent of trying to meet this strategy to reduce fast food concentration. QOL-5. Address the over-saturation of fast food in Far Northeast. 1. Dilute the concentration of unhealthy, overly processed food. a. Consider a pilot program in Far Northeast that uses zoning, licensing, or other regulatory tools to limit the concentration of fast food retailers in the area, especially in areas located near schools. b. Work with restaurants to offer healthier food and beverage options, especially those that offer children's meals. c. Work with food retailers to offer "healthy checkout aisles". d. Encourage more restaurants that offer a variety of dining options such as fast casual, sit-down, and local restaurants. e. Consider commercial or mixed-use zoning that limits or prohibits the presence of drive-thrus for new developments. This language could act as a best practice for other neighborhood area plans to meet this strategy. DDPHE participates in the Metro Denver region's Healthy Beverage Partnership (HBP), managed by the Public Health Institute at Denver Health. The HBP seeks to propose policies, such as default beverages of water or unflavored milk for kids meals as opposed to sugar-sweetened beverages. The HBP engages with community members to provide input around policy development and adoption. The policy was adopted by Denver City Council in early 2024.</p>								
<p>H2</p>	<p>36% increase in SNAP enrollment for eligible populations</p>							<p>3</p> <p>●●●○</p>
<p>Healthy eating starts with having access to healthy foods. All residents should have easy and equitable access to culturally appropriate, fresh, and healthy foods sufficient to meet their complete daily nutritional needs. Rates of SNAP benefit enrollment of eligible but not enrolled (EBNE) populations have increased from a 2017 baseline of 58 to 80 percent in 2021. At the same time, the broader context is that there are racial inequalities between enrolled populations, and also new populations of new Americans who are not eligible for benefits.</p>								
<p>H2.A. Continue efforts to enroll eligible participants and eligible retailers in existing federal food assistance programs, for example Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)</p>	<p>36% increase in SNAP enrollment for eligible populations</p>	<p>Denver Human Services</p>	<p>59% in 2013</p>	<p>79</p>	<p>80% in 2030</p>	<p>DHS</p>	<p>DDPHE</p>	<p>3</p> <p>●●●○</p>
<p>DHS is responsible for processing federal SNAP applications and EBT card disbursements. To strengthen DHS's outreach and processing systems for SNAP outreach, DHS collaborated with DDPHE's HFDK initiative by funding community partners to assist with resource navigation. Promoting enrollment in, and expansion of, federal nutrition assistance programs is a high priority and core strategy for the Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) Initiative. Currently, HFDK funds grantees to conduct SNAP and WIC outreach and enrollment, as well as increase the number of sites and youth/families participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). HFDK tracks this data through program evaluation and has provided related technical assistance to grantees. For example, HFDK hosted grantee discussions on successes and challenges around SNAP outreach and enrollment and facilitated introductions for grantees to become partners of Hunger Free Colorado's Partners Engaging in Application Services (SNAP PEAS) program, as well as CACFP and SFSP sites. Additionally, DDPHE provided resources to Denver food pantries in support of signing up people for SNAP. DPR can assist with communications about access to benefits at its recreation centers in the future.</p>								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
H2.B. Advocate for incentive programs that reduce the cost of purchasing fresh and healthy foods through the Double Up Colorado SNAP program	36% increase in SNAP enrollment for eligible populations	Denver Human Services	59% in 2013	79	80% in 2030	DDPHE	DHS	0 ○○○○
<p>Nourish Colorado, a nonprofit, received State of Colorado funds to administer the Double Up program statewide, including in Denver. Robust collaboration opportunities were identified for ways to improve and strengthen Double Up program implementation in Denver. CPD included the concept of incentivizing fresh produce, for example Double Up, in NPI plan recommendations within the Complete Food Environment section of Quality of Life. DDPHE's Healthy Food for Denver's Kids accepted healthy food incentive programs as part of its request for proposals, but to date, no organization has requested or been awarded funds to implement this strategy. DDPHE seeks to further emphasize and leverage Double Up Food Bucks (DUFB) in relevant programming in 2024.</p>								
H2.C. Strengthen collaboration with the hunger relief network and integrate with other senior and multigenerational anti-poverty efforts to more comprehensively prevent hunger and food insecurity	36% increase in SNAP enrollment for eligible populations	Denver Human Services	59% in 2013	79	80% in 2030	DDPHE	HRCR, DPR	1 ●○○○
<p>Since the HFDK initiative launched in 2019, Healthy Food for Denver's Kids has responded to community feedback and begun taking a more multi-generational approach to its grant programming, including focusing on funding food access services that reach whole families and organizations that provide early childhood education (ECE) and/or wraparound services. This shift in HFDK strategy included a series of changes made to the Denver Revised Municipal Code (DRMC) in 2021 that have since allowed for a more inclusive and equitable grant program. HRCR's Office of Aging is aware of the need for, and access to, food among older adults. Unfortunately, to date, sufficient funding to directly provide food boxes or meals has not been secured. Historically, HRCR connected older adults to Food Bank of the Rockies who provided meals for seniors, at a cost. Related, DPR provided senior programming at its recreation centers and is willing to share food resources through such programming in 2024.</p>								
H2.D. Invest in hunger relief efforts and infrastructure required to expand fresh and healthy foods at food pantries while reducing regulatory limits for hunger relief providers	36% increase in SNAP enrollment for eligible populations	Denver Human Services	59% in 2013	79	80% in 2030	DDPHE		3 ●●●○
<p>DDPHE invested more than \$5 million of federal funding to support emergency food providers with food, supplies, and pantry infrastructure during COVID-19. DDPHE also awarded \$3.3 million in funding for food system infrastructure to make improvements to communications, transportation, buildings, packaging, and kitchen equipment to ten community food nonprofit organizations. DDPHE hosts monthly food pantry calls offering networking, policy and technical assistance opportunities for all of Denver's food pantries since 2020. DDPHE also provided trainings on public health inspection rules and requirements to support better understanding of food safety and handling requirements at food pantries.</p>								
H3	75% of youth and adults eat at least 1 serving of fruit and vegetables per day							2 ●●○○
<p>Healthy eating starts with having access to healthy foods. All residents should have easy and equitable access to culturally appropriate, fresh, and healthy foods sufficient to meet their complete daily nutritional needs. Rates of daily consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables have declined in both youth and adults from the 2013 baseline to 2021; for adults from 83 to 79 percent and for children from 37 to 33 percent.</p>								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
<p>H3.A. Coordinate with Denver Public Schools (DPS) to increase farm to school and other healthy school meal efforts, including garden to cafeteria programs, by seeking opportunities to reduce regulatory barriers</p>	<p>75% of youth eat at least 1 serving of vegetables per day</p>	<p>Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Healthy Kids Colorado Survey</p>	<p>37.5% in 2013</p>	<p>33.2</p>	<p>75% in 2030</p>	<p>DPS</p>	<p>DDPHE</p>	<p>3</p> <p>●●●○</p>
<p>CPD included a detailed strategy in NPI plan recommendations throughout the Complete Food Environment sections of Quality of Life in the Blueprint Denver. DDPHE's HFDK Initiative funded two Denver Public Schools Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) projects: 1) a large-scale greenhouse to provide salad bowl items to all schools in the district (HFDK invested \$1 million dollars in 2020), and 2) a culinary training for all food service staff to ensure the serving of consistent, high quality, tasty and nutritious school meals (a \$2 million dollar investment from 2021-2023). Additionally, HFDK funded DPS Career Connect (over \$700,000 from 2020-2023) to convert a classroom at Bruce Randolph School (grades 6-12) into a hydroponic farm that produced 11,000 pounds of produce in its first year. The Bruce Randolph School produce was distributed to students and families, a neighborhood food bank and pantry, and via student meals. As a key part of the DPS food-related infrastructure projects, DPS began creating an Urban Agriculture Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway to provide learning and workforce development opportunities for students and adults. To date, no action has been taken on the regulatory barriers aspect of the strategy.</p>								
<p>H3.B. Reduce unhealthy food options and sugary drinks in city facilities frequented by youth (for example libraries, recreation centers, and parks) by adopting a healthier vending policy</p>	<p>75% of adults eat at least 1 serving of vegetables per day</p>	<p>Center's for Disease Control Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System or metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas bi-annual survey data (CDC SMART BRFSS MMSA)</p>	<p>83% in 2013</p>	<p>79</p>	<p>80% in 2030</p>	<p>DDPHE</p>	<p>OCA, DDPHE, DOTI, DPR</p>	<p>4</p> <p>●●●●</p>
<p>CPD plans to explore strategies on ways to reduce unhealthy food options for youth that can be included in future NPI Area Plans to support this strategy. Denver's Safe Routes to School, managed through DOTI, frequently engaged with school communities and worked to provide healthy food options as part of its programming. In 2018, the Mayor's office, in partnership with DDPHE, amended Executive Order (XO) 70 to become 70A, Healthier City Vending Machines. The XO requires healthy options be included in vending machines in city owned or managed facilities. Enforcement of XO 70A has been challenging and could use city capacity to ensure the requirement is being met. DPR has been slowly removing vending machines from recreation centers and will continue to explore options on how to best approach vending machine removal.</p>								
<p>H3.C. Continue and expand access to healthy after school and summer meals programs to reach more youth in more public facilities across the city</p>	<p>75% of youth eat at least 1 serving of vegetables per day</p>	<p>Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Healthy Kids Colorado Survey https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/healthy-kids-colorado-survey-data-tables-and-reports</p>	<p>37.5% in 2013</p>	<p>33.2</p>	<p>75% in 2030</p>	<p>OCA</p>	<p>DDPHE, DPS, CPD</p>	<p>3</p> <p>●●●○</p>
<p>DDPHE's Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) funded grantees (e.g. the Denver Office of Children's Affairs and Wildwood CACFP) and provided technical assistance on the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) to support expanded program sites and increased participation. DDPHE's HFDK Initiative has also funded many grantees to enroll kids and their families in SNAP. Additionally, DDPHE received a CDC grant in part to assist food pantries to enroll program participants in SNAP. OCA offers meals at Denver recreation center locations through the Tasty Food program and intends to offer food boxes to help families through weekends in the future. OCA received an HFDK grant to expand Tasty Food sites and numbers of youth reached. CPD intends to explore how to integrate this strategy into the youth engagement and food sections of Quality of Life in future NPI area plans. DPS's Curriculum and Food and Nutrition divisions are leading school programming and food services for youth, including expanding access to healthy snacks during and after school.</p>								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
H3.D. Encourage school gardens and farms combined with in school and out of school home economics and food literacy education for youth, including growing, cooking, nutrition, budgeting, and shopping for healthy foods	75% of youth eat at least 1 serving of vegetables per day	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Healthy Kids Colorado Survey https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/healthy-kids-colorado-survey-data-tables-and-reports	37.5% in 2013	33.2	75% in 2030	DPS	CPD, OCA, DDPHE, DPR	2 ●●○○
<p>CPD includes references to this strategy in its area plans stemming from the NPI. Additional City agencies and community partners are needed to advance implementation and partnerships to move policy recommendations into action. DPR expressed interest in supporting this strategy in 2024. DDPHE's HFDK grantees grew school gardens and farms, in addition to providing food literacy education on a variety of topics such as cooking, food justice and advocacy, food production, food safety, storage, preservation, food systems, supply chains, food waste, and nutrition or healthy eating. HFDK also funded a community of practice for HFDK grantees leading community and school garden work.</p>								
<p>H4 57% reduction in the number of children drinking sugary drinks daily 2 ●●○○</p> <p>Healthy eating starts with having access to healthy foods. All residents should have easy and equitable access to culturally appropriate, fresh, and healthy foods sufficient to meet their complete daily nutritional needs. Daily sugar sweetened beverage consumption in high school students has declined from 92 to 83 percent in 2021. At the same time, consumption of sports beverages has dramatically increased in Denver teens.</p>								
H4.A. Expand community-based, culturally relevant education on healthy eating, including how to shop for affordable healthy options and how to use those ingredients to cook nutritious meals	57% reduction in the number of children drinking sugary drinks daily	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Healthy Kids Colorado Survey	13.0% in 2015	36.7	5.5% in 2030	DDPHE	CPD, DPR, OCA	2 ●●○○
<p>CPD includes references to this strategy in its area plans stemming from the NPI. Additional City agencies and community partners are needed to advance implementation and building of partnerships to move policy recommendations into action. DDPHE's Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) grantees provided culturally relevant education on healthy eating. For example, HFDK grantees Re:Vision, Colorado Circles for Change, Slow Food Denver, and Early Excellence shared culturally relevant, diverse and multi-lingual recipes with families, including demonstration of healthier substitutions within traditional recipes. DPR offered cooking classes at recreation centers inclusive of nutrition education. Opportunities exist to expand this programming and DPR welcomes partners who could further this type of education. HOST expressed interest in sharing DPR or other educational materials with housing and shelter partners in the future. OCA mainly focuses on the provision of nutritious meals to children, yet coordinates with state level support for culturally-relevant healthy eating education through Colorado Headstart programs. Headstart offers classes at their childcare centers on health, wellness, and nutrition as part of their curriculum for families and children of low-income populations.</p>								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
<p>H4.B. Collaborate with food educators (e.g., health care providers, registered dietitians, chefs, and small business devoted to health and wellness) to encourage consumption of more fresh and whole foods, fewer processed foods, more cooking at home, and more in-season, local foods</p>	<p>57% reduction in the number of children drinking sugary drinks daily</p>	<p>Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Healthy Kids Colorado Survey</p>	<p>13.0% in 2015</p>	<p>36.7</p>	<p>5.5% in 2030</p>	<p>DDPHE</p>	<p>CPD, DPR, OCA</p>	<p>2 ●●○○</p>
<p>DDPHE's Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) grantees and food educators encouraged youth and their families to garden, cook at home, and generally eat a healthy diet rich in fruits and vegetables and fewer ultra-processed foods. DPR offered cooking classes at recreation centers inclusive of nutrition education. Opportunities exist to expand this programming and DPR welcomes partners who could further this type of education from DPR recreation centers. HOST expressed interest in sharing DPR materials with their partners to expand awareness and reach of healthy food consumption education. OCA mainly focuses on the provision of nutritious meals to children, yet coordinates with state level support for culturally-relevant healthy eating education through Colorado Headstart programs. Headstart offers classes at their childcare centers on health, wellness, and nutrition as part of their curriculum for families and children of low-income populations.</p>								
<p>H4.C. Develop and deploy culturally sensitive public messaging campaigns to promote standard information about nutrition and affordable healthy eating</p>	<p>57% reduction in the number of children drinking sugary drinks daily</p>	<p>Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Healthy Kids Colorado Survey</p>	<p>13.0% in 2015</p>	<p>36.7</p>	<p>5.5% in 2030</p>	<p>DDPHE</p>		<p>1 ●○○○</p>
<p>DDPHE's HFDK initiative is considering conducting a marketing campaign around the deploy culturally sensitive public messaging campaigns and could include promotion of nutrition specifically as the HFDK communications plan moves forward . DDPHE explored ideas regarding a potential Fruit and Vegetable promotional campaign as a part of a public private partnership. OCA continued its community engagement work to raise awareness of Tasty Food sites. The Public Health Institute at Denver Health facilitated the Healthy Beverage Partnership, a regional effort to reduce obesity and chronic diseases in seven counties, including Denver, by promoting a reduction in consumption of sugary beverages through marketing, education, environmental and policy change. In 2018, City Council issued a Declaration Promoting Healthier Foods and Beverages (Proclamation 18-0753) and passed the Healthy Default Beverages for Kids Meals policy in early 2024.</p>								
<p>H4.D. Develop multilingual maps, signs and marketing tools, including community signage, for healthy food retail options</p>	<p>57% reduction in the number of children drinking sugary drinks daily</p>	<p>Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Healthy Kids Colorado Survey</p>	<p>13.0% in 2015</p>	<p>36.7</p>	<p>5.5% in 2030</p>	<p>DDPHE</p>	<p>DEDO</p>	<p>2 ●●○○</p>
<p>CPD's NPI plans include this strategy, yet additional detail and language within future area plans could strengthen local programming, incentives and funding opportunities. DDPHE developed healthy marketing signage for small food retailers through its Healthy Corner Stores initiative and shared those resources following the programs end in 2018 with broader community food access partners. More recently, DDPHE's HFDK Initiative and FIC shared the healthy food retail signage with grantees and partners. DDPHE also developed food resource (e.g. food pantries) postcards in multiple languages (Spanish, Chinese, Amharic) that were provided at community events or in food boxes distributed by food pantries. Denver's Food Interagency Group began development of a central resource website for all food access resources across City agencies to make it easier for Denverites to find information about food resources in Denver.</p>								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
V1	59% increase size of the Denver food economy							1 ●○○○
Vibrant economies require strong regional food systems. The Vision seeks to leverage the strength of Denver's food businesses to accelerate economic opportunity by tracking food industry and labor market data. Denver is continuing to seek updated data from Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI) for food related businesses.								
V1.A. Develop a nationally-recognized regional food industry through the recruitment and development of food-related businesses	59% increase size of the Denver food economy	Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)	\$6,960,765,373 in 2013		\$11,000,000,000 in 2030	DEDO	DEDO	3 ●●○○
DEDO worked to strengthen the hospitality and restaurant industry sectors, as well as food and beverage manufacturing, and DEDO has plans to continue that work.								
V1.B. Continue efforts to strengthen connections between Colorado farms, local distributors and Denver based food businesses, and consumers	59% increase size of the Denver food economy	Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)	\$6,960,765,373 in 2013		\$11,000,000,000 in 2030	DDPHE	DEDO, DPS, DSD, OCA, Denver Arts and Venues	3 ●●○○
Mayor Hancock passed Executive Order (XO) 149: Good Food Purchasing Program in May 2022 supporting implementation of the Good Food Purchasing Program (GFPP) across City agencies regarding food service. GFPP, promoted by DDPHE, leverages the buying power of institutions to purchase food from vendors that care about the health and well-being of people, animals, and the environment. DPS, OCA, and the Sheriff's Department completed GFPP baseline assessments on their food purchasing practices. The GFPP XO has led some Denver public serving food program contracts to include the requirements of GFPP. DDPHE connected food pantries to local farmers and producers who will sell or donate excess produce to them. HFDK includes language for preferential procurement of local food in the Denver Revised Municipal Code governing the program and provided technical assistance to grantees on local purchasing. The Department of Safety implemented a program with a community partner, We Don't Waste, where they provide locally farmed food boxes during arrests or house visits when someone may be experiencing food insecurity. DEDO included food systems infrastructure as an eligible use in its 2022 Notice of Funding Availability for nonprofit organizations.								
V1.C. Enhance food system infrastructure, such as aggregation and storage facilities, commercial kitchens, and public market spaces to enhance value added production	59% increase size of the Denver food economy	Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)	\$6,960,765,373 in 2013		\$11,000,000,000 in 2030	DEDO	CPD, DDPHE	2 ●○○○
All NPI plans out of CPD do, or will, include this strategy. CPD plans to further explore how to support and fund plan implementation associated with this strategy. DDPHE awarded \$3.3 million in ARPA federal funds for food system resiliency. Funds were granted to ten Denver grantees to support food systems infrastructure that enables organizations to more effectively obtain, store, and distribute food that would ensure better preparation for future food system crises. DEDO included food systems infrastructure as an eligible use in its 2022 Notice of Funding Availability for nonprofit organizations.								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
<p>V1.D. Promote tourism leveraging Denver's reputation for high quality food and beverages</p>	<p>59% increase size of the Denver food economy</p>	<p>Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)</p>	<p>\$6,960,765,373 in 2013</p>		<p>\$11,000,000,000 in 2030</p>	<p>DEDO</p>		<p>2</p> <p>● ● ● ●</p>
<p>DEDO continued working with external partners like the Colorado Office of Tourism, Visit Denver, EAT Denver, and the Colorado Restaurant Association to ensure Denver attracts and promotes national conferences, including but not limited to the Great American Beer Festival and Colorado Restaurant Week. In 2022, DEDO invested \$2.15 million dollars of federal pandemic recovery dollars, ranging in size between \$20,000 and \$200,000, to businesses, nonprofits, and community groups. Grants were used to encourage people to eat and shop locally, support neighborhood businesses, and boost ongoing grassroots revitalization in Denver's most vulnerable neighborhoods, including the priority neighborhoods of East Colfax, Globeville, Elyria-Swansea, Montbello, Northeast Park Hill, Sun Valley, Valverde, West Colfax, Westwood, and Villa Park. Funded projects served historically marginalized populations including communities of color, older adults, people experiencing poverty or homelessness, formerly incarcerated people, immigrants and refugees, people with disabilities, veterans, or those identifying as LGBTQ+.</p>								
<p>V1.E. Increase production and export of Denver food and beverage products, brands, and innovations</p>	<p>59% increase size of the Denver food economy</p>	<p>Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)</p>	<p>\$6,960,765,373 in 2013</p>		<p>\$11,000,000,000 in 2030</p>	<p>DEDO</p>		<p>1</p> <p>● ● ● ●</p>
<p>DEDO worked to strengthen the hospitality and restaurant industry sectors, as well as food and beverage manufacturing. DEDO also has global connections to leverage transportation and logistics networks.</p>								
<p>V2 \$100M of new capital to Denver food businesses</p> <p>1</p> <p>● ● ● ●</p>								
<p>Vibrant economies require strong regional food systems. The Vision seeks to leverage the strength of Denver's food businesses to accelerate economic opportunity by tracking food industry and labor market data. Denver is continuing to seek updated data on new capital for food related businesses since the 2015 baseline.</p>								
<p>V2.A. Streamline city permitting process for food-related businesses across relevant agencies</p>	<p>\$100M of new capital to Denver food businesses</p>	<p>Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) form Regulation D filings for Denver per year</p>	<p>\$0 (only tracking new capital)</p>		<p>\$100 million by 2030</p>	<p>DEDO</p>	<p>DDPHE, EXL, CPD</p>	<p>3</p> <p>● ● ● ●</p>
<p>Neighborhood Area Plans, guided by Community Planning and Development, include recommendations regarding food-related businesses and/or city permitting processes specific to community and local business needs. The complete food environment section of each neighborhood plan typically includes recommendations for streamlining processes that are challenging for local food businesses and community members. Recommendations can also be found in Denver's Comprehensive Plan and Blueprint Denver. The Department of Excise and License (EXL) Policy Team collaborated with DDPHE's Public Health Investigations (PHI) Division to propose a new fee structure for wholesale and retail food licenses, which was approved in 2022. DDPHE also collaborated with EXL to amend language to make it more clear that residents who are not legally documented under federal immigration status are eligible to apply for a food license.</p>								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
V2.B. Provide multilingual business support and technical assistance to clarify and abbreviate the process to open/expand food businesses and to utilize incentives like the enterprise zone	\$100M of new capital to Denver food businesses	Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) form Regulation D filings for Denver per year	\$0 (only tracking new capital)		\$100 million by 2030	DEDO	DEDO	1 ●○○○
<p>CPD's Far Northeast Area Plan Quality of Life Recommendation 4.2.d includes the following language: "Promote healthy food retail options through multilingual newsletters, community maps, signs, and marketing tools." DEDO has current funding that provides community partners the resources to provide technical assistance that offers support and tools related to starting and/or scaling a business. DDPHE previously provided technical assistance to multilingual businesses through its Public Health Investigations Division and community partner Mi Casa for the Healthy Corner Stores initiative until it sunseted in 2018. DDPHE offered some technical assistance to multilingual businesses through the Food in Communities program, for example through its partnership with the East Colfax Community Collective to launch a pilot Small Business Incubation Program in 2023 for new food entrepreneurs.</p>								
V2.C. Support community food businesses that promote the economic opportunity and stability for Denver neighborhoods, for example, community food cooperatives and business incubators	\$100M of new capital to Denver food businesses	Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) form Regulation D filings for Denver per year	\$0 (only tracking new capital)		\$100 million by 2030	DEDO	DEDO, HRCP/OFE	1 ●○○○
<p>DEDO worked on expanding its portfolio to include business incubator spaces supporting BIPOC small businesses and start-ups, which could include businesses that are food-centered. Cooperative purchasing happens through Denver City institutions who are participating in GFPP. DDPHE provided technical assistance on city food purchasing to City institutions on GFPP standards, including prioritization of supporting businesses with living wage policies. CPD's Quality of Life, Strategy 4.2 of the Far Northeast Area Plan supports this strategy: (4.2) Use creative solutions to close food access gaps in Far Northeast. a. Consider fast-track permitting, increased translation and interpretation services, and fee/fine waivers or reductions for grocery stores, mobile food markets and other fresh food businesses in underserved areas. b. Streamline permit processes for facilities related to food storage, processing, and distribution that accommodate small producers and food businesses. c. Consider state and local incentives for healthy food retail stores to open or expand in underserved areas. d. Promote mobile markets and food delivery options to improve food access. e. Encourage schools to offer education for youth about nutrition and how to grow, cook, budget, and shop for healthy foods.</p>								
V2.D. Foster community wealth building and economic mobility opportunities through food business ownership opportunities and the development of food businesses that support living wage jobs	\$100M of new capital to Denver food businesses	Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) form Regulation D filings for Denver per year	\$0 (only tracking new capital)		\$100 million by 2030	DEDO	DEDO	1 ●○○○
<p>DEDO requested resources during the City budget process for 2024 that would allow DEDO to explore land trust concepts, support identification of community needs, and learn from potential community implementation partners. DDPHE's HFDK Initiative has language for preferential procurement of local food in the DRMC, and the initiative provided technical assistance to grantees on local purchasing. GFPP also prioritizes supporting businesses with living wage policies for city food purchases.</p>								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
V2.E. Advance city efforts and influence other institutions to preferentially purchase from local and/or healthy food and beverage businesses	\$100M of new capital to Denver food businesses	Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) form Regulation D filings for Denver per year	\$0 (only tracking new capital)		\$100 million by 2030	DEDO	DDPHE, OCA, DSD, Arts and Venues	3 ●●●○
<p>Mayor Hancock passed Executive Order 149: Good Food Purchasing Program in May 2022 to implement the Good Food Purchasing Program, which uses the buying power of institutions to purchase food from vendors that care about the health and well-being of people, animals, and the environment. DPS, OCA, and the Sherriff's Department all participated in a baseline assessment of their food purchasing for the GFPP. GFPP implementation has begun as it is being included within Denver's public serving food programs' food service contract requirements. DDPHE is also connecting food pantries to local farmers and producers who will sell or donate excess produce to them. HFDK has language for preferential procurement of local food in its regulations and has provided technical assistance to grantees on local purchasing. Department of Safety has a We Don't Waste program, where food boxes are provided during arrests or house visits where someone may be experiencing food insecurity. DEDO included food systems infrastructure as an eligible use in its 2022 Notice of Funding Availability for nonprofit organizations.</p>								
V2.F. Encourage existing and new industry associations as business capacity builders, resources, and champions for business stakeholders	\$100M of new capital to Denver food businesses	Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) form Regulation D filings for Denver per year	\$0 (only tracking new capital)		\$100 million by 2030	DEDO	DEDO	1 ●○○○
<p>DEDO provided support in this area utilizing federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for business technical assistance and infrastructure. DEDO is in process of evaluating the sustainability of programming for when funding sunsets.</p>								
V2.G. Develop a high quality, versatile food workforce through food-specific workforce programs, higher education partnerships, leadership development, and custom trainings to fill job skill gaps	\$100M of new capital to Denver food businesses	Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) form Regulation D filings for Denver per year	\$0 (only tracking new capital)		\$100 million by 2030	DEDO	DHS	1 ●○○○
<p>All adopted neighborhood area plans, via CPD, include support for food-specific workforce opportunities, as do all in-process and future neighborhood area plans. DHS partnered with WOW cafe through TANF, SNAP to Success, and Sun Valley Kitchen through Community Services Block Grant funding. DDPHE's Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) prioritized funding on-the-job training for youth leaders in the food system, including support for organizations who provide employment for youth and their families in food systems (e.g., internships, promotora or community health worker models, etc.) In the community, local nonprofit programs include COMAL, Osage Café, the Pinwell Café for Youth (supported by DHA), Gold Beans through Girls Inc of Metro Denver, and the Women's Bean Project.</p>								
V2.H. Identify and support micro-businesses and nonprofits that provide culturally relevant healthy foods	\$100M of new capital to Denver food businesses	Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) form Regulation D filings for Denver per year	\$0 (only tracking new capital)		\$100 million by 2030	DEDO	DEDO	1 ●○○○
<p>All CPD adopted neighborhood area plans include support for micro-businesses and nonprofits providing culturally relevant food, as do all in-process and future neighborhood area plans. DEDO's NEST program has current funding that isn't specifically earmarked for healthy foods, but may eligible for such purposes. DDPHE's HFDK Initiative values culturally relevant healthy food within the program's nutrition policy and encourages grantees to provide this as part of their service. HFDK promotes the Food Bank of the Rockies' extensive work on culturally responsive foods for Eastern Shoshone, Ethiopian, Latin American, Northern Arapaho, Russian, Somali, and Vietnamese populations. HFDK grantees sought feedback from families when determining which foods to serve, considered cultural preferences and traditional foods cooked at home, and included recipes and/or ingredients to support the preparation of culturally specific dishes.</p>								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
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V3

25% percent of food purchased by public institutions comes from Colorado

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Vibrant economies require strong regional food systems. The Vision seeks to leverage the strength of Denver's food businesses to accelerate economic opportunity by tracking food industry and labor market data. An approximate 8 percent on average of food purchased by Denver city agencies who have public food programs comes from Colorado as of 2022.

<p>V3.A. Develop tailored multicultural entrepreneurship programs for innovators in the food and beverage industry, such as a business accelerator</p>	<p>25% of food purchased by public institutions comes from Colorado</p>	<p>Center for Good Food Purchasing baseline assessments for the Good Food Purchasing Program (Denver Sheriff's Department, Office of Children's Affairs, Denver Public Schools, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Centura Health)</p>	<p>City and County of Denver food purchasing data</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>25% of institutional food purchases in 2030</p>	<p>DEDO</p>	<p>1 ● ● ● ●</p>
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CPD plans to weave this strategy into two neighborhood area plans that are in process (Near NW and Near SE), as recently completed plans do not specifically name this strategy. DEDO worked on expanding its portfolio to include business incubator spaces supporting BIPOC small businesses and start-ups, which could include businesses that are food-centered. Saltbox, a new incubator space located at 4800 Dahlia in Northeast Park Hill, opened in 2022. DDPHE's Food in Communities initiative worked with an incubator space in East Colfax that supported immigrant and refugee food business entrepreneurs.

<p>V3.B. Conduct a study of the relevant policies and regulations to identify and address barriers to developing and growing innovative food-related businesses</p>	<p>25% of food purchased by public institutions comes from Colorado</p>	<p>Center for Good Food Purchasing baseline assessments for the Good Food Purchasing Program (Denver Sheriff's Department, Office of Children's Affairs, Denver Public Schools, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Centura Health)</p>	<p>City and County of Denver food purchasing data</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>25% of institutional food purchases in 2030</p>	<p>DEDO</p>	<p>EXL 1 ● ● ● ●</p>
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The EXL policy team and DDPHE Public Health Investigations (PHI) Division proposed a new fee structure for wholesale and retail food licenses, which was approved and implemented in 2022. CPD explored where and how to weave this strategy into its neighborhood planning initiative. To date, DEDO is not working on a study related to policy and regulatory barriers for innovative food-related businesses.

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
V3.C. Support pilot projects and research on innovative urban agriculture production models including greenhouses, vertical growing, and rooftop agriculture	25% percent of food purchased by public institutions comes from Colorado	Center for Good Food Purchasing baseline assessments for the Good Food Purchasing Program (Denver Sheriff's Department, Office of Children's Affairs, Denver Public Schools, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Centura Health)	City and County of Denver food purchasing data	8	25% of institutional food purchases in 2030		DPR, CPD	2
								<p>CPD's NPI plans each include a section titled "Transformative Projects," where big vision ideas are unpacked into realistic and measurable impact on the neighborhood. For example, the Far Northeast Area Plan included the Freshlo Cultural Hub that came to fruition over 5 years of planning and seeking funding to bring a grocery store to a low food access neighborhood. Since 2020, the HFDK Initiative provided grants to organizations that implemented hydroponics (e.g., Denver Public Schools Career Connect at Bruce Randolph School, The Urban Farm), in addition to funding a large-scale greenhouse as part of Denver Public Schools Food and Nutrition Services. The Office of Climate Action, Sustainability and Resiliency (CASR) outreached to aquaponics organizations, and may explore further in 2024 due to additional staff capacity. DPR is interested in innovative approaches that increase the amount of food that can be grown in a food plot to maximize community impact.</p>
V3.D. Attract corporate research and development divisions that align with and complement the Denver Food Vision	25% percent of food purchased by public institutions comes from Colorado	Center for Good Food Purchasing baseline assessments for the Good Food Purchasing Program (Denver Sheriff's Department, Office of Children's Affairs, Denver Public Schools, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Centura Health)	City and County of Denver food purchasing data	8	25% of institutional food purchases in 2030		DEDO	0
								<p>No activity on this strategy to date.</p>

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
V3.E. Leverage research from Colorado universities to encourage technology transfer and commercialization	25% percent of food purchased by public institutions comes from Colorado	Center for Good Food Purchasing baseline assessments for the Good Food Purchasing Program (Denver Sheriff's Department, Office of Children's Affairs, Denver Public Schools, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Centura Health)	City and County of Denver food purchasing data	8	25% of institutional food purchases in 2030		National Western Center (NWC)	3 ●●●○
<p>Jointly, the National Western Center and Colorado State University (CSU) opened the SPUR campus in Denver in 2022 after years of planning and development. SPUR is a free educational destination for K-12 students in Denver that focuses on food, water, and health research and innovation that brings together research, teaching, and engagement activities. CSU academic and research institutions are hosted on the SPUR campus, including supports for agriculture and food businesses. The CSU SPUR Agricultural Innovation Center focuses on accelerating agtech businesses that support water-limited regenerative agriculture and builds on the land-grant mission of serving farmers by connecting university expertise with the startup and innovation landscape. This is accomplished by creating processes, tools, and networks that help entrepreneurs, investors, and corporations to center the voices of farmers and their trusted advisors in the technology and business design process.</p>								
V3.F. Coordinate existing and create new funding mechanisms to support start-up enterprises and pre-revenue innovations	25% percent of food purchased by public institutions comes from Colorado	Center for Good Food Purchasing baseline assessments for the Good Food Purchasing Program (Denver Sheriff's Department, Office of Children's Affairs, Denver Public Schools, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Centura Health)	City and County of Denver food purchasing data	8	25% of institutional food purchases in 2030		DEDO	0 ○○○○
<p>No activity on this strategy to date.</p>								
R1	Preserve 99.2 acres (0.1% of Denver acres) in active agricultural production							1 ●○○○
<p>As acres of farmland continue to decline in Denver, this goal is focused on preserving at least 99.2 acres of active agricultural production. From 2012 to 2017, acres of active agricultural production declined from 143 to 129. However, the total number of farms in the city increased from 9 at the adoption of the DFV to 12 presently.</p>								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
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R1.A. Preserve and reactivate key historic agriculture infrastructure in Denver, such as the National Western Center	Preserve 99.2 acres (0.1% of Denver acres) in active agricultural production	US Agricultural Census: State and County Level data, Denver County	143 acres in 2012		99.2 acres by 2030		National Western Center	2 ●○○○
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Jointly, the National Western Center and Colorado State University (CSU) opened the SPUR campus in Denver in 2022 after years of planning and development. SPUR is a free educational destination for K-12 students in Denver that focuses on food, water, and health research and innovation that brings together research, teaching, and engagement activities. CSU academic and research institutions are hosted on the SPUR campus, including supports for agriculture and food businesses. The CSU SPUR Agricultural Innovation Center focuses on accelerating agtech businesses that support water-limited regenerative agriculture and builds on the land-grant mission of serving farmers by connecting university expertise with the startup and innovation landscape. This is being accomplished by creating processes, tools, and networks that help entrepreneurs, investors, and corporations to center the voices of farmers and their trusted advisors in the technology and business design process. The National Western Center has a 2050 Food Vision for 2050 master plan but it only speaks to the state's largest agricultural convention, the National Western Stock Show and Rodeo which is a temporary and short term effort. Funding for a public food market was approved by voters through a city ballot measure 2C in 2015, but the establishment of a public-private partnership for its development was canceled due to COVID-19 and the current project status is unclear.

R1.B. Coordinate with surrounding counties to identify and preserve prime agricultural working lands and water that provide region with fresh fruits, vegetables and other healthy foods	Preserve 99.2 acres (0.1% of Denver acres) in active agricultural production	US Agricultural Census: State and County Level data, Denver County	143 acres in 2012		99.2 acres by 2030		DPR	2 ●○○○
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This strategy was woven into the approved West Area Plan as the neighborhoods within the plan are almost universally low food access areas, meaning they are neighborhoods without access to a full service retail grocery store. Residents across the West Area prioritized this as a top concern to be addressed within the Quality of Life plan section. Through the Food in Communities (FIC) program at DDPHE, strong partnerships continued with Lakewood, Wheat Ridge and other municipalities on the west side of Denver through Jefferson County Public Health. FIC also partnered with the Mile High Farmers Union. Through the SFPC, DDPHE is coordinating with Jefferson County Food Policy Council and Mile High Farmers initiative to support Denver farms and farmers' technical assistance needs. Since 2019, the SFPC has convened a working group on public land access for farming.

R1.C. Expand opportunities for local food production on public and private lands including those used historically for agriculture	Preserve 99.2 acres (0.1% of Denver acres) in active agricultural production	US Agricultural Census: State and County Level data, Denver County	143 acres in 2012		99.2 acres by 2030		DPR	1 ●○○○
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Aria Denver's "Agrihood" in the approved East Central Area Plan is an example of a case study on local food production being embedded in redevelopment. CPD recommends working in partnership with Denver Urban Gardens and RTD and internally with DPR, CASR, and DOTI, on specific solutions for expanding agriculture and growing on public and private lands. DPR offers community gardens on some DPR park land and would like to be involved in future plans for community gardens on public lands. Since 2020, Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) has funded The Urban Farm (TUF). TUF, located on city owned Department of Parks and Recreation land, has taken a three-pronged approach to promoting a resilient local food system in Denver by addressing workforce development, youth education, and fresh food access through urban agriculture.

R2

Preserve **99.2** acres (0.1% of Denver acres) in active agricultural production

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As acres of farmland continue to decline in Denver, this goal is focused on preserving at least 99.2 acres of active agricultural production. From 2012 to 2017, acres of active agricultural production declined from 143 to 129. However, the total number of farms in the city increased from 9 at the adoption of the DFV to 12 presently.

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
R2.A. Encourage diverse scales and regenerative production methods for a wide variety of food products	Preserve 99.2 acres (0.1% of Denver acres) in active agricultural production	US Agricultural Census: State and County Level data, Denver County	143 acres in 2012		99.2 acres by 2030		DPR	1 ●○○○
Education and outreach around diverse scales and regenerative farming and production techniques are available through CSU Extension. Community members provided feedback to CPD that reflects an increase in demand of regenerative methods of design, food production, and businesses as the next step in innovation in the climate realm, as an improvement over resiliency, especially in West Denver. DDPHE's GFPP program prioritizes regenerative types of agriculture over conventional methods. Healthy Food for Denver's Kids provided funding to community partners and schools for farming and gardening programs that reflect diverse and regenerative agricultural standards.								
R2.B. Support research on new crop varieties and production models, including season extension and water-saving techniques	Preserve 99.2 acres (0.1% of Denver acres) in active agricultural production	Denver 2010 Solid Waste Master Plan, Denver Sustainable Management Plan 2017	20,000 tons in 2008		99.2 acres by 2030		DPR	1 ●○○○
CPD's West Area Plan includes content on creating space for a food forest as part of tree canopy improvements. Other programs and support for this strategy come from organizations such as Denver Urban Gardens (DUG), as they that are actively finding opportunities and ways to integrate food forestry and community gardens into neighborhoods. The newly opened CSU SPUR campus and the CSU Extension promote gardening, food production, and agricultural science programs through community education and business technical assistance.								
R2.C. Promote education on residential and public efforts to protect pollinators and provide pollinator habitats	Preserve 99.2 acres (0.1% of Denver acres) in active agricultural production	US Agricultural Census: State and County Level data, Denver County	143 acres in 2012		99.2 acres by 2030		DPR	1 ●○○○
CPD's West Area Plan includes content on pollinators and creating space for a food forest as part of its tree canopy improvement recommendations. Other programs and support come from organizations such as Denver Urban Gardens (DUG) that are actively finding opportunities and ways to integrate food forestry and community gardens into neighborhoods. HFDK could encourage grantees to include pollinator education in food literacy efforts. Opportunities may also exist between City agencies and CSU Extension on pollinators, food production and gardening education programs.								
R3	57% reduction in tons of residential food waste collected by the city							2 ●○○○
In 2017, food waste accounted for 19% of total residential waste (approximately 43,000 tons of residential food waste). This compared unfavorably to the 10% of residential waste attributed to food in 2010 (approximately 22,000 tons of residential food waste). The 2010 percentage seemed uncharacteristically low, potentially due to the newness of the field of food waste measurement and reduction at that time.								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
R3.A. Support consumer education to reduce the amount of food that goes to waste in Denver homes	57% reduction in tons of residential food waste collected by the city	Denver 2010 Solid Waste Master Plan, Denver Sustainable Management Plan 2017	20,000 tons in 2008		13,200 tons in 2030	DOTI	DDPHE, DOTI and Solid Waste	2 ●○○○
<p>In the Far Northeast Area Plan, guidance in Quality of Life section 4: 4.3 states: Support food recovery and reducing wasted food in Far Northeast. a. Educate the public about reducing the amount of food that is wasted in homes and food-related businesses. b. Redistribute grocery retail and restaurant overstock to food pantries and other community-based organizations. c. Promote and expand the City's residential and commercial composting program.</p> <p>DDPHE's food waste prevention program conducted community focus groups to gather community input on food waste prevention in low income communities. Based on the feedback received, DDPHE distributed food waste prevention materials to 1,000 randomly selected households in SW Denver to help reduce the amount of edible food that goes to waste. The campaign pilot results showed a high level of uptake of the materials and residents reported wasting food less often than in the control group. DDPHE will refine and update materials and re-launch them in 2024 to an additional 2,000 households. DDPHE will also design and launch an ad campaign in early 2024 in support of this strategy. In year two of the Healthy Food for Denver's Kids Initiative (2021-2022), 18 grantees taught food systems education, which included topics like food waste and supply chains. HFDK grantee We Don't Waste (WDW) conducts waste audits in school cafeterias to teach students about food waste, in addition to an educational presentation. After these audits, WDW provides the school with reports that include the findings and recommended changes the school could make to reduce food waste. DOTI and CASR offered educational resources and outreach, for example as informational YouTube videos, to reduce household waste through campaigns about Bring Your Own Bag, Skip the Stuff Say No to Single-Use Utensils, Refuse and Reuse and the Waste No More.</p>								
R3.B. Encourage businesses to prevent food waste and celebrate expanded food donation by restaurants, retailers, institutional food service, distributors, and food processors	57% reduction in tons of residential food waste collected by the city	Denver 2010 Solid Waste Master Plan, Denver Sustainable Management Plan 2018	20,000 tons in 2008		13,200 tons in 2030	DOTI	CASR, DDPHE	2 ●○○○
<p>CASR explored how to best measure the impact of GHG reductions from reducing food waste. In 2019 and 2020, DDPHE conducted food waste prevention and composting challenges with restaurants in three Denver neighborhoods, targeting more than 30 restaurants in total. These challenges showed that restaurants have the potential to divert up to 90% of their waste by composting and recycling. To drive additional progress with donations, DDPHE partnered with its Public Health Investigations Division to distribute materials to restaurants, educating them on donations of wholesome surplus food and connecting them with We Don't Waste, a local food rescue organization. The materials provided emphasize that restaurants are protected from liability at the federal level for donating food in good faith, and can also claim federal tax credits on donated food.</p>								
R3.C. Help connect seconds and other food waste from Colorado farms to value-added food manufacturing and green energy businesses	57% reduction in tons of residential food waste collected by the city	Denver 2010 Solid Waste Master Plan, Denver Sustainable Management Plan 2019	20,000 tons in 2008		13,200 tons in 2030	DOTI	DEDO, DDPHE, CASR	1 ●○○○
<p>No City activity. In the community, the founder of Denver Food Rescue started the UpCycled Food Association in 2019, a national nonprofit business membership organization focused on preventing food waste by growing the upcycled food economy by preventing food waste through creating new food products and a circular economy for food.</p>								

STRATEGIES	GOALS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE	DATA YEAR 2022	2030 TARGET	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER AGENCIES	PROGRESS
R3.D. Invest in hunger relief efforts and infrastructure required to rescue fresh and healthy foods that would otherwise be wasted, recognizing that direct service organizations such as shelters and pantries are often the most under-resourced segment of the hunger relief system	57% reduction in tons of residential food waste collected by the city	Denver 2010 Solid Waste Master Plan, Denver Sustainable Management Plan 2020	20,000 tons in 2008		13,200 tons in 2030	DOTI	HOST, DDPHE, OCA, DHS	3 ●●●○
<p>CASR is studying how to best measure the impact of GHG reductions from food waste reductions. DHS partnered with We Don't Waste, Food Bank of the Rockies, its own mobile food pantry, and the GIVE Center. DHS hosts monthly food pantries using rescued food and DHS also signs up eligible visitors for SNAP. Since 2019, DDPHE has convened a monthly virtual call with food banks and pantries across the Denver Metro Area as an opportunity for participants to hear from one another and be connected to resources available to them and the communities they serve. For example, participants heard from Move For Hunger, an organization offering free transportation of surplus food in and around Denver. Participants have kept abreast of funding available to them, and worked collectively on drafting funding proposals. DDPHE awarded \$3.3 million in federal ARPA funding for food system infrastructure grants to community food nonprofits, food banks and pantries in 2023. Funds were granted to ten Denver organizations to support food systems infrastructure, allowing organizations to more effectively obtain, store, rescue, and distribute food that would ensure better preparation for future food system crises. Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) provided grants to hunger relief organizations, including those that focus on food waste recovery, rescue and distribution (e.g. Denver Food Rescue, We Don't Waste).</p>								
R3.E. Expand residential and commercial composting opportunities to reduce bulk and emissions at landfills	57% reduction in tons of residential food waste collected by the city	Denver 2010 Solid Waste Master Plan, Denver Sustainable Management Plan 2021	20,000 tons in 2008		13,200 tons in 2030	DOTI	DOTI	4 ●●●●
<p>Expanded Waste Collection Services passed through City Council in 2022, and went into effect in 2023, providing free weekly recycling and compost services, while also introducing billing for trash to single family residences in the City. This has dramatically expanded the number of local residences composting, up from 30,000 households in 2020 to the majority of households in 2023. In November 2022, 70 percent of Denver voters approved the Waste No More ballot initiative, which requires all Denver businesses, including apartment buildings, condos, restaurants, hotels, sporting arenas, and permitted events, to provide compost and recycling pick-up services alongside trash service. The ordinance also requires that all construction and demolition waste must be recycled. These policies aim to boost recycling and composting rates as well as decrease the amount of waste our City sends into the landfill. CASR is managing a community task force to guide effective implementation of Waste No More.</p>								
R3.F. Continue full implementation of solid waste master plan program and policy initiatives	57% reduction in tons of residential food waste collected by the city	Denver 2010 Solid Waste Master Plan, Denver Sustainable Management Plan 2022	20,000 tons in 2008		13,200 tons in 2030	DOTI	DOTI	3 ●●●○
<p>DOTI updated the City's Sustainable Management Plan in 2022 to set new goals for waste reduction, as the previous plan was from 2010. The new goals recommend diverting 50 percent of all solid waste generated by 2027, and 70% by 2032. The plan recommends a number of strategies, including policies, operations, and education to achieve the new goals, including a focus on dramatically expanding rates of composting.</p>								